

Mission Statement

“Committed to the success of the Big Lake business community through information, communication, cooperation and support for all.”

Board of Directors

President: Tim Suchy
Edward Jones 763.262.9988

Vice President: Steve Westerberg, Big Lake Schools 763.262.5218

Treasurer: Brenda Geldert, Options, Inc. 763.263.3684

Secretary: Hanna Klimmek, City of Big Lake 763.251.2979

Ken Geroux , Ken Geroux Construction 763.263.6878

Paul Knier, Cabot Lodge Securities 763-263-1716

Scott Schulz, Great River Spine & Sport 763.260.8401

Allen Snegosky, Sherburne State Bank 763-271-4919

Karen Tomfohrde, Insurance Specialists Team (IST) 763-244-3735 x302

Executive Director: Gloria Vande Brake 763-263-7800

info@biglakechamber.com
160 Lake Street N
P.O. Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309

Office Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday
8 am - 10 am
And alternate Fridays
Or by appointment

GLORIA'S GEMS

A couple weeks ago I flew out the St. Cloud Regional Airport to Mesa AZ to stay at my mom's winter home and enjoy a few days with her and my sisters.

Something new was being part of the crew of the Freedom Flight Hot Air Balloon at Arizona's 8th Annual Balloon Classic. Freedom Flight creates awareness of thousands of POW/MIA soldiers who haven't returned home. After arriving at 6 am on Saturday, we were able to lift up and lead the balloons. And for the first time, I was able to go up in the balloon!



Up at 3000 ft!

At right is my brother-in-law Curt and sister Faye with pilot Luke



NEW MEMBERS:

The Board is pleased to announce two new members joined last month:

Jason Holmen, owner of Primo Pizza offers delivery to the Big Lake area. They also offer a percentage of sales on Monday nights to Big Lake Schools. They catered the Chamber's January membership meeting.



Heather Scheif, realtor at Wright Sherburne Realty specializes in new construction and residential sales and has extensive knowledge regarding properties in Wright & Sherburne Counties.



COMMUNITY FAIR



Big Lake
Chamber
of Commerce & Industry

On Sunday, March 3rd

Big Lake Community Fair Sunday, March 3rd from 11-2 pm

This year's Community Fair promises to be a great event with both business, governmental and non-profit booths, youth performances, bounce house, free food samples, and more! For the first time the fair will host a petting zoo at the High School.

Please consider hosting a booth to promote your products and services, upcoming events, and potential job opportunities. This is a great opportunity for the community to get to know your organization. Last year, one of the business participants received 5 employment applications at the Fair and 3 more the following week!

Sponsorships are available at \$1000 for platinum, \$700 for petting zoo sponsorship, and \$500 for gold sponsors. All sponsors receive a free booth along with additional publicity & recognition in the West Sherburne Tribune, on the Chamber website, and at the Community Fair.

This year second & third booths are available at a greatly reduced price! Registrations and payments received by Tuesday, February 5th receive a \$20 Early Bird Discount! You can submit your registration via mail or online [here!](#)



2019 Community Fair
Sunday, March 3rd, 2019
11 am—2pm
Big Lake High School

BUSINESS NAME: _____
TYPE OF BUSINESS/ MAIN SERVICES: _____
PRIMARY CONTACT: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Registration fee includes: 8x10 draped booth, 1 8ft. draped table & two chairs, fully carpeted area, and advertising for Community event. Set up times: 3-4:30 pm on 3/2 and 9 am on 3/3
6 PREMIUM Booth Spaces at entrance of Fair- for an additional \$50
Only available until February 5th, 2019 (same day that Early Bird Discount ends)
Early Bird- \$20 Discount on registration if paid by February 5th, 2019
Sales of new, pre-packaged items will be allowed at booths. PLEASE NOTE: Open food is NOT permitted in any part of the gymnasium. If you wish to give samples, we are offering one complimentary food court table with a paid booth in the gymnasium
Food Court is for FREE FOOD samples ONLY; sales in the court will NOT be permitted

Booth Space:	Sub-total:
<input type="checkbox"/> Chamber member**: 1 booth @ \$200.00; additional booths @ \$125 each (does not include electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Chamber member: 1 booth @ \$350.00 ; additional booths @ \$200 each (does not include electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Premium Booth Space ___ x \$50.00 additional charge to booth fee.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Court Table (members) # of tables ___ x \$75.00 (includes electricity)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Court Table (non-members) # of tables ___ x \$125.00 (includes electricity)	_____
Extra, Optional Items:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity \$20 (one outlet per booth, limited availability, bring your own cord)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional skirted table 4ft ___ 6ft ___ 8ft ___ x \$30.00 (do not bring your own)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Company name on sign in booth \$10.00 (Or bring your own for no charge)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Complimentary Food Court table with paid booth for food samples (does not include electricity)	_____

Full Payment Must Accompany This Registration Form

Payment Information: Checks, Cash, or Visa/MasterCard accepted. Make checks payable and mail to:
Big Lake Chamber of Commerce & Industry, PO Box 241, Big Lake, MN 55309

Card Number _____ Expiration _____ CVC _____
Signature _____ Date _____

\$20 discount if payment received by February 5th, 2019

Total Paid: _____

Registration deadline is Friday, February 15th, 2019

*Your booth is NOT confirmed unless payment is received. A confirmation email will immediately be sent as soon as payment arrives. If you do not receive a confirmation email from the BLCC&I, we did not receive your info or payment. Please look for your email and contact us if you do not receive it within one week of sending your registration. **If you check member pricing, you must be up-to-date on your membership dues**



**Wednesday, February 27, 2019
from 11-3:30**

Join our Governmental Affairs Committee as we head to the Capital at the MN Chamber's Business Day at the Capitol. The morning includes being briefed on pertinent issues impacting businesses in the morning and meeting with our state legislators in the afternoon. Your voice makes a difference. Registration is due February 20th and the fee is \$65 which includes lunch. Carpooling is available. [Register here!](#)

Minnesota Chamber's Top 5 Priorities:

Doug Loon, President of the Minnesota Chamber announced their five major priorities which will frame the Minnesota Chamber Federation initiatives at the Legislature:

- Tax competitiveness: Ensure that our tax climate supports long-term success.
- Health care: Ensure quality care is affordable and accessible to all Minnesotans while enhancing the ability of employers to provide coverage to their employees.
- Workplace mandates: Preserve the right of private employers to develop wage and benefit packages that best suit the distinctive needs of companies and employees.
- Transportation: Ensure Minnesota has a safe, reliable and efficient multimodal transportation system through sustained and strategic funding for roads, bridges and transit.
- Workforce development: Accelerate private-sector workforce efforts to help employers attract and retain the skilled workers they need to compete.

The Minnesota Chamber policy team works full-time on behalf of its members. These priorities were determined after consulting with local chambers.



Tim Suchy, AAMS®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

GOLF SCRAMBLE THURSDAY, MAY 23rd

Thanks to the enthusiastic Golf Committee, the Chamber will be hosting their first annual Golf Scramble on Thursday, May 23rd from 9-5 pm at the Monticello Golf Club.

Master Sponsors to date include :

Edward Jones



1st Annual

GOLF SCRAMBLE

Building Community Connections

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019 FROM 9-5 PM
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

SPONSORSHIPS

Master Sponsors: \$625 for sponsorship of event & includes green fees, cart, light breakfast & dinner for 4 golfers)

Edward Jones



Classic Sponsor: \$200. Includes sponsorship of a golf hole with signage. You are encouraged to have a game or event at your golf tee box.

Dinner Sponsor: Receives signage at table at start time and also at the dinner buffet.

Beverage Cart Sponsor (2): \$450. Your company logo on carts

Driving Range Sponsor: \$200. Signage at the driving range. Can have table set-up to greet golfers the day of the tournament.

Putting Contest Sponsor: Donate prize.

Party Cart: \$200. Party Cart will be decorated to theme of the Golf Scramble & have sponsor's logo on signage on the cart. Sponsor can also provide prizes.

HOLE IN ONE \$20,000 PRIZE sponsored by



*** All sponsors will be recognized in Big Lake Chamber Newsletter, Facebook, & Big Lake Chamber Website and Special Recognition at the Awards Dinner.



Sponsor at www.biglakechamber.com/eventsand search for golf.



SCHEDULE

9 am Registration & Continental Breakfast

10 am Shotgun

3 pm Social Hour

4 pm Awards Dinner



Classic sponsors include: Connexus Energy, DataSuccess and KleinBank.

There are still many opportunities to sponsor as noted in the poster to the left.

Below is a flyer for golfers and their teams to register. You can go online to sponsor or register at [Golf Scramble here!](#)

1st Annual GOLF SCRAMBLE

Building Community Connections

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019 FROM 9-5 PM
MONTICELLO COUNTRY CLUB
1209 GOLF COURSE RD, MONTICELLO MN

GOLFERS

Enjoy games such as longest drive, longest putt, closest to pin, Mulligans

HOLE IN ONE \$20,000 PRIZE sponsored by

First, Second & Third Prizes with Trophy

Team with Lowest Score receives \$200 to use at Pro Shop

Team with Highest Scores receives FREE lessons by pro!

Early Bird by April 20th: \$80 each or Team of 4 at \$300 paid together

After April 20th: \$90 or \$360 per Team of 4 paid together

Master Sponsors include:

Edward Jones



SCHEDULE

9 am Registration & Continental Breakfast

10 am Shotgun

3 pm Social Hour

4 pm Awards Dinner



Register at www.biglakechamber.com/eventsand search for golf.



CREATE & CONNECT STUDIO'S RIBBON CUTTING on Jan. 17th

Seven Chamber members joined Owner Mandi Sabourin of Create & Connect Studio for a ribbon cutting ceremony at her newly-opened studio on Jan 17th as she opens her art studio and yoga classes. Pictured below are: Gloria Vande Brake, Chamber staff; Paul Knier, Cabot Lodge Securities; Daren Kutina &



Mandi Sabourin, Create & Connect Studio; Stacie Skalak, Options Inc; Raeanne Danielowski, JC's U Lock Storage; Hanna Klimmek, City of Big Lake and Donna Clarksean, KleinBank. Brenda Geldert of Options also attend the event.

New businesses or businesses who are expanding or celebrating an anniversary can contact the Chamber office to schedule a ribbon cutting.

Ambassadors Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, Feb 12th at 11:30 at Friendly Buffalo!



Events




KleinBank
A DIVISION OF OLD NATIONAL BANK

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Big Lake | 19943 Co Rd 43
kleinbank.com

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender

AUTHOR BRIAN FREEMAN



**MONDAY, FEB. 4
6:30 TO 7:30 P.M.**

Join Brian for a funny and entertaining look at his 14-year career writing twist-filled psychological thrillers, including bestsellers like "Alter Ego" (set in Duluth!) and "The Night Bird." His books may be a little scary — and his wife Marcia says she sleeps with one eye open — but Brian swears you will be in no actual danger attending his talk. For adults and teens. A Legacy event.

BIG LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY • 750 Minnesota Ave. • Phone 226-263-4443 • www.big.lake.il.us

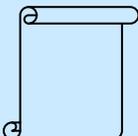
Colorful Heart Art Class

**MONDAY, FEB. 11
4:30 TO 5:30 P.M.**

Based on the book, "In My Heart: A Book of Feelings," by Jo Witek. Students will make an art project based on the book's artwork. Great for Valentine's Day! For ages 7-12. Limit 25. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.

BIG LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY • 750 Minnesota Ave. • Phone 226-263-4443 • www.big.lake.il.us

Storytimes: help develop early literacy skills! For ages 0 to 6. Limit 20. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Big Lake Library.
Every Friday, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.



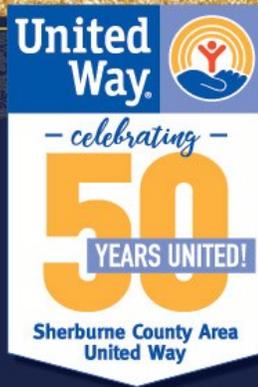
CHAMBER'S FEBRUARY 26th MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Find out about what Sergeant Ryan Broich and the **Sherburne County Drug Task Force** are planning for the new year and what has been accomplished in 2018 at our Tuesday, February 26th membership meeting at Liberty Elementary. **Big Lake School** Superintendent Steve Westerberg and Liberty Principal Caryl Gordy will also share their successes. Plan to stay for a tour. Meeting begins at 11:45 and lunch will be \$15. [Register here!](#)



JOB

New job postings are on our Chamber website. [Check them out here!](#) Members can also add their listings.



Join Us
in celebration at the
50th Anniversary Luncheon

FEBRUARY 28, 2019 • 11:30am-1:00pm
at Rockwoods in Otsego

RSVP today! Seating is limited.

Tickets available online:
www.SherburneUnitedWay.org/tickets

THE SOMALI MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA

Exploring History and Culture in Central Minnesota

February 2, 2-4 pm	Somali Kebed Weaving	Morrison County Historical Society Little Falls
February 9, 2-4 pm	Somali Culture Lecture Lecture at 2:30	Sherburne History Center, Becker
February 16, 2-4 pm	Mobile Culture Show	Benton County Historical Society Sauk Rapids
February 23, 2-4 pm	Somali Dance Troupe Performance at 2:30	Stearns History Museum, St. Cloud



Business After Hours Thursday, February 21st at 5 pm

Members are encourage to join us for networking on **Thursday, Feb 21st from 5-7 pm** for our Business After Hours event. There is no charge.

The picture at the right includes several Chamber members at January's Business After Hours, hosted by **Create & Connect Studio**. Owner Mandi Sabourin offered 3x3 canvas tiles along with paint supplies to encourage Chamber members to add to the Wall of Art. To the right, Hanna Klimmek of the City of Big Lake, Paul Knier of Cabot Lodge Securities and Raeanne Danielowski of JC's U Lock Storage encourage Donna Clarksean of KleinBank & Stacie Skalak of Options in their creative efforts.




February 9th, 2019
at 12:00pm

BIG LAKE LIONS

LITTLE HOLE ICE FISHING CONTEST

LittleHoleOnBigLake.org

BIG LAKE SPUD FEST
sponsored by
FREE KIDS FISHING DERBY

Held before the Main Event
From 10:00-11:30am

Proceeds from this event will go towards the Big Lake High School Scholarship Program.

Adopt A Pole

Businesses and families in the Big Lake area have an opportunity to adopt a pole on Highway 10. Sponsor this program to receive your name on two seasonal banners hung year-round and help **Promote Community Spirit!**

Projected Lifespan 3-4 years!

Year-Round Banner Package: \$125

Contact Corrie Scott, Recreation Coordinator for the City of Big Lake:
612-297-6331 or cscott@biglakemn.org



The City of Big Lake will be responsible for storage and maintenance as needed. The City of Big Lake is not responsible for acts of vandalism or severe weather damage. The above banner design is from 2014. Design is subject to change.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Executive Director Mike Brubaker will speak on “The Art & Architecture of Cemeteries” at their Winter Lecture Series on Wednesday, Feb. 13th at 2 pm at SHC.



Is seeking volunteers to provide childcare for children while their mothers participate in a support group. The group meets in Monticello on Tuesday evenings from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Contact them at 763.295.3433. [Click here for more information.](#)



Bounce Back Project is hosting, *Hardwired to Connect: Why Relationships are the Key to Resilience* featuring author Erin Walsh on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 7 – 8 p.m. at the Monticello High School Auditorium.



As seen on their ad on page 7, the Big Lake Lions Club with Big Lake Spud Fest are hosting their 16th annual **Little Hole Ice Fishing Contest** at noon on Saturday, February 9th. Monetary donations as well as donated items used as prizes for the contest are still welcome. The contest has grown to an average of 800 participants, over 100 of them being children under the age of 16. The proceeds will go to the Big Lake High School Scholarship Program to help students continue their education. Over \$6000 was given in scholarships in 2018.



City of Big Lake is seeking volunteers for its Lake Clean Up Day on Saturday, February 24th from 1-3 pm at Lakeside Park. Dress warm (including water-resistant boots) and email Corrie at scott@biglakemn.org if you have access to sleds or four-wheelers.



Lupulin Brewing received three awards from readers of The Growler Magazines in early December. Gold Medal honors went to Blissful Ignorance for the Double IPA category, and Silver Medals were received for both the Beer Label and Hazy / New England IPA categories for Hooley! They also released Coffee Assault Vehicle bottles for sale. Their award-winning beer will now be distributed throughout Central MN (including the Brainerd Lakes area) through C&L Distributing.



City of Big Lake has an opening for a member on the Big Lake Economic Development Association. See Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek for more information.

Members can submit their announcements to info@biglakechamber.com.

VOLUNTEER FOR A CHAMBER COMMITTEE in 2019

In addition to its Board of Directors, the Chamber has seven Committees that members can be involved. Several of these are short-term Committees around a specific event while others advise the Board on specific issues. Please consider volunteer for one of the following and email your interest to info@biglakechamber.com:

Ambassadors

Block Party

Economic Development

Golf Scramble

Governmental Affairs

Holiday Social

Community Fair

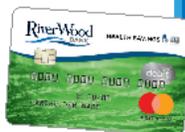
Rise of High-Deductible Coverage Provides Opportunity for a **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT**



The percentage of Minnesotans who receive employer health coverage and are enrolled in high-deductible plans has nearly doubled since 2013 according to an article published in October in the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal*. A high-deductible insurance plan provides the opportunity to benefit from having a Health Savings Account (HSA).

HSAs are a way for individuals with high-deductible health plans to save for medical expenses that are not covered by insurance. However, an HSA can do more than pay medical expenses; it can also serve to supplement your retirement savings.

CALL US TODAY TO LEARN MORE.



888-751-5120 | RiverWoodBank.com

HSA eligibility requirements apply. See a banker for details. Tax and penalty may apply for non-qualified purchases with HSA funds. For HSA specific information, you are encouraged to consult your tax or legal professional. MEMBER FDIC

Advantages of a **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

- Funds accumulate year to year
- Personal account no matter where you work or if you retire
- Earn a competitive interest rate
- Tax savings:
 - Contributions are pre-tax or tax deductible
 - Earnings are non-taxable
 - Qualified distributions are tax-free



Winter Farmers Market

Saron Lutheran Church • 3:00-6:00pm
311 Lake St S, Big Lake, MN 55309 • 2nd Friday of month

November 9 • December 14* • January 11
February 8* • March 8 • April 12*

*Seasonal days reserved for vendor EBT program

Debit/Credit & Snap/EBT Accepted
Market Bucks Match Program
Live Monthly Musicians
Free Kids Activities

Vendor Products:

Homemade and homegrown produce, baked goods, meat, eggs, syrup, honey, tea, salsa, pickles, jam, crafts, and more!

www.biglakemn.org

Questions? Contact Corie at 612.217.6331 or corie@biglakemn.org

Newsletter Tidbits

Due

Want to include something in the Chamber Newsletter? Send us a 1/4 page ad or a few sentences to include in next month's newsletter by Wednesday, February 20th. Full page ads can be added for only \$25 per month. Are you a new member? Ask the Chamber how to redeem your free full page ad!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Early Registrations due for Community Fair. Click here!	6	7	8 Winters Farmers Market 3-6 pm @ Saron Lutheran	9 Lions Little Hole Fishing Contest at noon
10	11	12 Chamber Board Meeting 12:30 at City Council Chambers	13 Ambassadors 11:30 @ Friendly Buffalo	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Business after Hours	22	23
24	25	26 Membership Meeting at 11:45 at Liberty Elementary. Register here!	27 MN Chamber Business Day at Capitol	28 Sherburne Co Area United Way 50th Anniversary Lunch at Rockwoods		

Mark Your Calendar!

March 3--Big Lake Community Fair from 11-2 at Big Lake High School

March 21 at 4:30 pm: Economic Development Business After Hours at Russell's

March 26: Membership Meeting at 11:45 am

May 23-- Golf Scramble at Monticello Country Club at 9 am